

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheets include changes to Fig. 2 and a new Figure 4. These sheets replace the original sheet including Figs. 2 and 3 and add a new sheet with Figure 4. In Figure 2, previously omitted element 30 has been added. Figure 4 is substantially the same as Figure 1 except for the addition of chuck plate 28, which is described in the original disclosure in paragraph [0025]. No new matter is introduced.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet (1), new sheet (1).

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims set forth in the Official Action of February 11, 2005, are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In the specification, paragraphs [0001], [0036] and [0038] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems. Paragraphs [0032a] and [0039a] have been added.

Paragraph [0032a] introduces a new Figure 4, which is substantially the same as Figure 1 except for the inclusion of chuck plate 28 being shown. Paragraph [0039a] paraphrases the disclosure of paragraph [0025] and does not introduce new matter.

In amended Figure 2, previously omitted element 30 has been identified.

Entry of the amendments to the specification and approval of the proposed drawing changes are respectfully solicited.

Status of the Claims:

Claims 1-12 are currently pending.

Claim 11 has been amended.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-4, 6, and 8-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,775,416 to Heimanson et al. (“Heimanson”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,930,456 to Vosen (“Vosen”). Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heimanson in view of Vosen, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,198,299 to Hollman (“Hollman”). Claims 5 and 7 have been objected to as being dependent

upon a rejected base claim, but would allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 of the present application recites, *inter alia*, an uncooled chuck drive arranged within said vacuum chamber. Heimanson does not disclose a chuck drive arranged within a vacuum chamber, but instead discloses a chuck that is supported on a vertical drive such that bellows seal the chuck body to a vacuum chamber while permitting vertical movement of the chuck. (See Heimanson, col. 4, lns. 45-50). As shown in Figure 1 of Heimanson, the bellows are needed to seal the chuck body to the vacuum chamber while permitting vertical movement because the vertical drive is not arranged within the vacuum chamber. (See Heimanson, Fig. 1). Vosen does not cure the deficiencies of Heimanson.


Claim 1 of the present application further recites, *inter alia*, a chuck carried by said chuck drive and thermally decoupled therefrom. Heimanson does not disclose a chuck thermally decoupled from a chuck drive, but instead discloses a vertical drive that is directly coupled to a chuck body, although the material coupling the two devices is not disclosed. (See Heimanson, Fig. 1). Further, Heimanson teaches away from the need to thermally decouple a chuck from a chuck drive - or the need to provide a low thermal conductive material for coupling the chuck to the chuck drive - by instead controlling the fluid pressure in a second cavity and the power to different heating elements, thereby controlling both the overall temperature of the wafer substrate and the temperature distribution through the wafer substrate. (Heimanson, col. 5, lns. 40-46). Vosen does not cure the deficiencies of Heimanson. Neither Heimanson nor Vosen disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 1 of the present invention, as described above, and as such do not render claim 1 of the present application obvious.

Claims 2-12 depend from claim 1 and thus should be patentable for at least those reasons stated above.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 1, 2005

By 
Paul D. Ackerman
Patent Office Reg. No. 38,891
Attorney for Applicants
BAKER BOTTS, L.L.P.
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112
(212) 408-2585